

# Department of Commerce

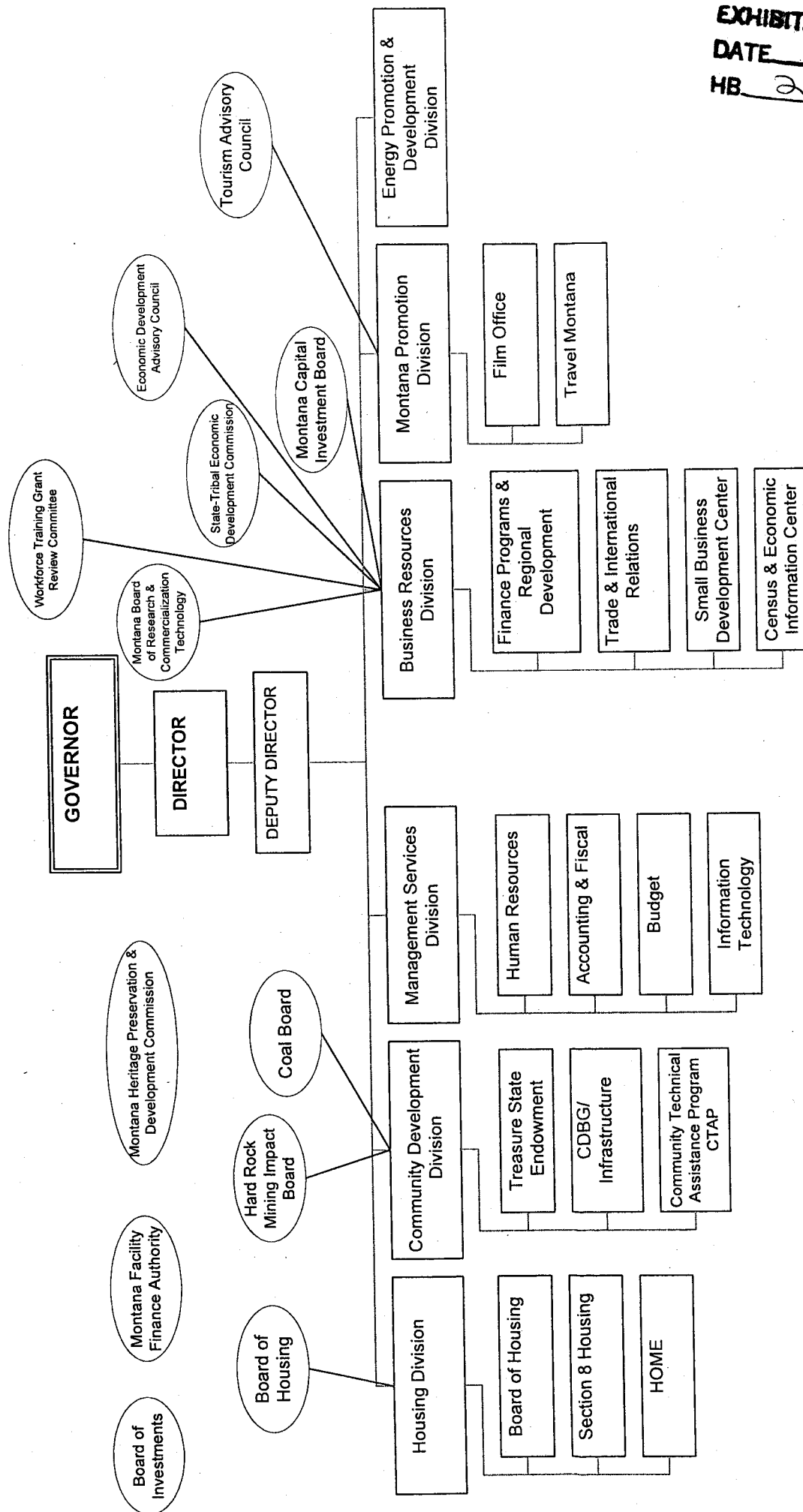


EXHIBIT 2  
DATE 1/21/09  
HB 2

## SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

Existing, start-up and entrepreneurial businesses can find confidential free business technical assistance, counseling and low-cost training through a network of ten statewide offices. Businesses can find assistance for business plan writing, marketing, management and financial analysis at Small Business Development Center (SBDC) offices located in local economic development organizations. The SBDC is supported through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration, the Dept. of Commerce and local host organizations. The SBDC offices provide an access point to local, state and federal business resources, as well as networking and mentoring opportunities.

For general information, call (406) 841-2747, email: [mtsbdc@mt.gov](mailto:mtsbdc@mt.gov), or visit: <http://www.sbdcmontana.org>

### SBDC Subcenter Locations

Big Sky Economic Development Authority - Billings  
406-254-6014

Northern Rocky Mountain RC&D - Bozeman  
406-922-0451

Southwest Montana Headwaters RC&D - Butte  
406-782-7333

Southeastern Montana Development Corporation - Colstrip  
406-748-2990

Great Falls Development Authority - Great Falls  
406-453-8834

Bear Paw Development Corporation - Havre  
406-265-4945

Montana Business Assistance Connection - Helena  
406-447-1512

Kalispell Area Chamber of Commerce - Kalispell  
406-758-2802

Montana Community Development Corporation - Missoula  
406-728-9234

Great Northern Development Corporation - Wolf Point  
406-653-2590

Upon request, this publication will be made available in an alternative accessible format.

## MICROBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

Montana has a network of regional MicroBusiness Development Corporations (MBDCs) that provide financing, training, and business assistance to help very small businesses expand or get started. Applicants generally must provide a business plan and other evidence to demonstrate the economic feasibility of the business and the ability to repay the loan from cash flow generated by the business. The intent of the program is to finance economically sound business projects that are not otherwise able to obtain financing from sources such as their local bank. Therefore, terms and conditions of each loan vary but the interest rates are generally slightly higher than bank rates. Refer to table on the back of this brochure for further details.

Montana Community Development Corp. (Missoula)  
(406) 728-9234

Headwaters RC&D Area, Inc. (Butte)  
(406) 782-7333

Montana Business Assistance Connection (Helena)  
(406) 447-1510

Bear Paw Development Corp. (Havre)  
(406) 265-9226

Great Northern Development Corp. (Wolf Point)  
(406) 653-2590

## ENTREPRENEUR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Entrepreneur Development Program offers business management education courses in communities throughout Montana through the Small Business Development Center network. Utilizing the NxLevel Entrepreneur curriculum, classroom training is offered to business owners who are growing their companies and to individuals serious about starting their own business. Certified business professionals who have strong connections with the local community teach the courses. Over thirteen weeks, individuals learn planning, marketing and financial tools to build their businesses. Additional information regarding the program, business tools and classroom sites may be found at: <http://www.nxlevelmontana.org>.

The program supports the development of entrepreneurial networks by working with the Small Business Development Centers and their host organizations. The program is very active on the Indian Reservations in Montana by supporting classroom training, counseling, and individualized technical assistance for the Tribes.  
Contact: (406) 721-3663

EXHIBIT 2

DATE 11/21/09

Business Resources Division

MONTANA  
Department of Commerce

Director: Anthony J. Preite

301 South Park Ave.  
PO Box 200505  
Helena, MT 59620-0505

[www.businessresources.mt.gov](http://www.businessresources.mt.gov)

[www.mtfinanceonline.com](http://www.mtfinanceonline.com)

[www.business.mt.gov](http://www.business.mt.gov)

Contact Numbers Inside  
TDD: (406) 841-2702



Governor: Brian Schweitzer

## WORKFORCE TRAINING GRANTS (WTG)

Primary Sector Workforce Training Act provides funding for employee training needs in expanding primary sector industries in Montana to encourage the creation of good-paying jobs. The program established by act is administered by the Department of Commerce. A seven-member Grant Review Committee, consisting of both public and private members, makes grant award decisions. The grant review committee may award workforce training grants of up to \$5,000 per eligible net new employee to primary sector businesses that provide education or skills-based training, through eligible training providers. The Montana Department of Labor and Industry (MDOLI) maintains an eligible training provider list.

Company must create at least one new eligible job that pays wages and benefits of at least the lower of the average county wage or average state wage. Annually, there is a maximum of \$3.9 million available for workforce training grants for eligible Montana companies. Contact (406) 841-2744 or visit [www.mtfinanceonline.com/WorkForceGrnts.asp](http://www.mtfinanceonline.com/WorkForceGrnts.asp).

## BIG SKY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND (BSTF)

Big Sky Economic Development Trust Fund (BSTF) Program was created to aid in the development of good-paying jobs for Montana residents and promote long-term, stable growth in Montana. The BSTF program is designed to provide financial assistance in the following two categories:

Economic Development Projects (Category I): 75% of BSTF earnings available to be awarded to local governments in the form of grants or loans for economic development projects that create net new qualifying jobs that pay at least the average wage of the county in which employees are to be principally employed. Awards may be made up to \$5,000 or \$7,500 per qualifying job depending on whether the project is located in a High Poverty County.

Training Grants (Category II): 25% of BSTF earnings are available to be awarded to Certified Regional Development Corporations and other qualified economic development organizations in areas not covered by CRDC in the form of a grant for planning activities such as feasibility studies, business plans, preliminary architectural reports and preliminary engineering reports. Contact: (406) 841-2792

## CERTIFIED REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS

Certified Regional Development Corporations (CRDC) program encourages a regional approach to economic development, which facilitates the efficient delivery of economic development programs by pooling regional capacity building.

CRDCs are responsible for helping local officials, communities, and businesses "assess, plan, and facilitate action" within their regions. CRDCs are required to have the support of all counties and a majority of incorporated cities and towns in their region to obtain and maintain certification. CRDCs receive annual capacity building grants from the Department of Commerce. To contact a CRDC, visit [www.businessresources.mt.gov/BRD\\_CRDC.asp](http://www.businessresources.mt.gov/BRD_CRDC.asp) or contact the Department of Commerce at (406)841-2736.

## MONTANA MANUFACTURING EXTENSION CENTERS (MMEC)

Department of Commerce works closely with MMEC engineers under a cooperative agreement. MMEC engineers are located in Missoula, Bozeman, Billings, Kalispell, and Helena. They provide technical assistance in a wide variety of areas important to manufacturers in Montana such as: facility layout; efficiency studies; process improvement; marketing; quality management; product costing and much more. The MMEC program is part of MT State University, College of Engineering Center and is affiliated with the National Institute of Standards and Technology. For additional information call 1(800) MEP-4MFG.

## COMMERCE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

Montana is divided into five regions with a Regional Development Officer (RDO) assigned to each area as a representative of the Montana Department of Commerce.

The RDOs live and travel extensively in their regions and are a resource to businesses, local development corporations and communities in the area. The program serves as an access point to all relevant Commerce Department resources, and all other relevant business and community development resources.

The primary purpose of this Finance Information Center program is to provide technical assistance to businesses for the purpose of obtaining financing for start-ups, expansions, business locations from out of state, and retention projects. RDOs work with all available business finance resources such as those found on the spreadsheet in this publication.

A map of the regions in Montana can be obtained by calling (406) 841-2730, or by viewing the RDO web site at: [http://businessresources.mt.gov/BRD\\_RDO.asp](http://businessresources.mt.gov/BRD_RDO.asp)

## REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

Northwest Montana  
Charlie Wright  
Missoula (406) 532-3222

Northcentral Montana  
Randy Hanson  
Havre (406) 262-9579

Eastern Montana  
Tod Kasten  
Circle (406) 485-3374

Southwest Montana  
Terry Dimock  
Helena (406) 841-2737

Southcentral Montana

Vacant

## MONTANA MAIN STREET PROGRAM

Created by the 2005 legislature and established in July 2005, the Montana Main Street program is a common sense, community driven approach that assists communities in revitalizing their historic downtown business districts. Its primary function is to provide technical expertise to establish and strengthen revitalization projects and address specific redevelopment issues in cities and towns.

The Department of Commerce selects a limited number of communities each year to participate in the program. These communities benefit from specific expertise tailored to fit their community redevelopment needs. At the same time, general assistance is available to communities statewide that are undertaking revitalization efforts. The program provides hands-on assistance, and serves as a full-time advocate and development resource to communities. It promotes a return to community self-reliance, local empowerment, and rebuilding of historic commercial districts. Contact: (406) 841-2756



# Montana Department of Commerce Highlights Report 2009

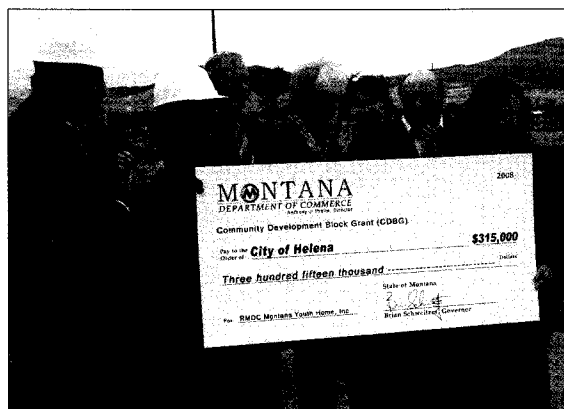
## Montana Means Business

At the Montana Department of Commerce, we know Montana means business. We are committed to Governor Brian Schweitzer's vision for economic prosperity and we strive to ensure that prosperity is attainable for Montana's citizens, communities, businesses, and organizations. We believe good paying jobs and a highly skilled workforce are the keys to achieving economic success in every corner of this great state.

This report highlights the important programs the Montana Department of Commerce utilizes to develop long-term, stable economic growth through job creation and employee training.

These programs allow us to create valuable partnerships between state agencies, local governments, and local economic development organizations. They play a critical role in drawing new business to Montana, and retaining or expanding existing businesses.

These programs generate a positive financial and economic return for the State of Montana and its citizens. Perhaps most importantly, these programs help provide a better life for future generations by promoting greater economic growth and prosperity in Montana.



*Lt. Governor Bohlinger in Helena, MT.*

### MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FINANCE PROGRAMS

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Workforce Training Grants                              | 2  |
| Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development  | 4  |
| Big Sky Economic Development Trust Fund                | 6  |
| Community Development Block Grant Economic Development | 8  |
| Indian Country Economic Development                    | 10 |
| Montana Indian Equity Fund                             | 13 |

*Director of Commerce, Tony Preite, at an ITB Event in Great Falls, MT.*



Anthony J. Preite  
Department of Commerce, Director

## Workforce Training Grants

**DirecTV**—In 2006, an aggressive funding package made up of both state and federal resources helped attract DirecTV to Missoula. Among other funds, the Montana Department of Commerce awarded Direct TV nearly \$2 million in Workforce Training Grants (WTG) for new employee training at the company's first technical assistance call center in Montana. These funds helped create over 1,000 jobs which pay over \$13.75 per hour, and include benefits. The project leveraged the grant with \$18.2 million in matching funds.

The WTG program is designed to create economic development by assisting established and new businesses in their

expansion efforts. It provides up to \$5,000 of training funds for each new qualifying job created in Montana. Qualifying companies, which export the majority of their products out of state, must match the state funds with company funds. Their employees must be approved by the Montana De-

partment of Labor and Industry. These private sector companies provide good local jobs with solid wages and help grow our economy by bringing new money into the state of Montana.

In 2007, the Legislature approved Governor Brian Schweitzer's request to increase program funding from \$1.4 million annually, to nearly \$4 million annually. The additional funds brought the program more success, and it continues to be one of the most utilized programs at Commerce.

### Economic Development Projects 2006

#### PrintingForLess.com

WTG Funds: **\$125,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$125,000**

Printing for Less, an Internet printing business in Livingston was awarded this grant to train 25 employees in its high standard customer service and comprehensive software training curriculum that covers customer software and real world printing knowledge.

#### Integrated Solutions

WTG Funds: **\$150,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$357,292**

Integrated Solutions is a new business in Wolf Point, wholly owned by the Fort Peck Tribes that tests software for a Microsoft affiliate. The award they received will provide for the hiring and training of 30 employees in the computer programming and software maintenance field.

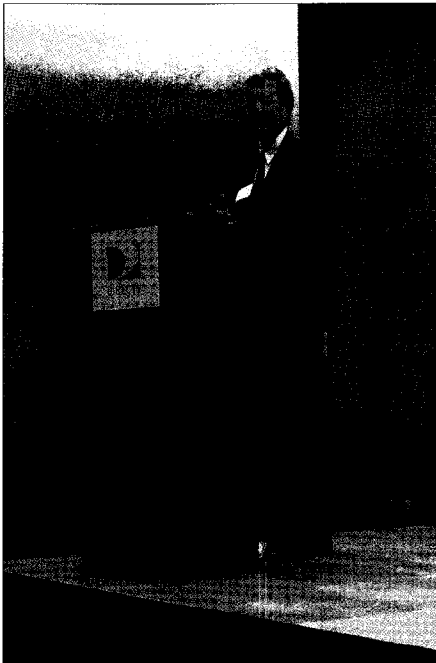
### Economic Development Projects 2007

#### AvMax Group, Inc.

WTG Funds: **\$205,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$2,588,425**

AvMax opened a new repair facility for regional aircrafts at the Great Falls International Airport and was awarded this grant to hire and train 41 new workers. Through partnership with the Great Falls Workforce Services Center, AvMax will



Senator Max Baucus speaks at the reception honoring DirecTV Customer Service who was awarded \$1,955,000 in Workforce Training Grants in 2006.

recruit over 100 new employees over the course of its first year of business.

#### DirecTV

WTG Funds: **\$1,955,000**

CDGB: **\$400,000**

BSTF: **\$460,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$18,197,000**

DirecTV was awarded this funding to hire and train over 1,000 employees at its new call center facility in Missoula County. DirecTV provides digital television via satellite. New employees will receive on the job training, handling "main bank volume" calls, and advanced technical training.

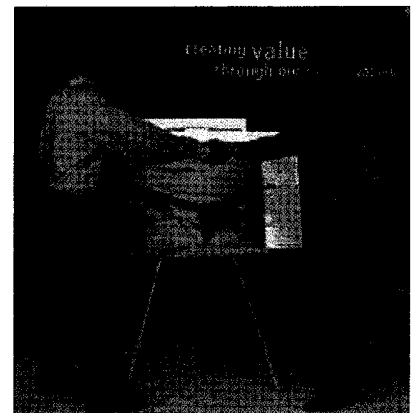
#### Cabela's Retail, Inc.

BSTF Funds: **\$50,000**

WTG: **\$40,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$16,945,000**

A grant to support the training costs of the expansion of the specialty sporting goods



Gov. Schweitzer at AvMax in 2007

retailer into Billings.

#### Elkhorn Treatment Center

WTG Funds: **\$75,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$5,437,313**

Elkhorn Treatment Center in Boulder received this award to hire and train 15 new employees. The new facility is a methamphetamine treatment center for female offenders, and is a division of Boyd Andrew Community Services in Helena.

#### Summit Aeronautics Group

WTG Funds: **\$200,000**

BSTF: **\$200,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$21,858,678**

Summit was granted this award to hire and train 40 new employees at its Helena Regional Airport Facility. Summit is adding 30,000 square feet to its 75,000 foot facility. Summit produces a number of machined parts and tools for high-end use in the aeronautics industry, including products for F22 fighter jets.

# Workforce Training Grants

## Economic Development Projects 2008

### Centene Corporation

WTG Funds: **\$480,700**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$2,420,000**

Centene, a medical claims processing corporation in Great Falls, will use this award to hire and train 100 new employees over the next three years. A new facility was constructed in 2006 and a cost-competitive daycare has been opened on site.

### PrintingForLess.com

WTG Funds: **\$480,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$2,050,000**

An additional 96 employees will be hired and trained with the award granted to PrintingForLess.com, one of the fastest growing companies in the U.S., located in Livingston.

### TeleTech

WTG Funds: **\$400,000**

Leveraged Funds: **\$913,392**

Teletech, a global business process outsourcing company, will hire and train an additional 80 employees with their award. Teletech provides a full range of business solutions enabling its clients to better serve, grow, and retain their customer base.

### Watkins & Shepard Trucking, Inc.

WTG Funds: **\$315,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$9,679,600**

Watkins & Shepard, a Missoula, Montana trucking company with nationwide activity, will use their award to train 63 new truck drivers in a comprehensive driver program. Watkins & Shepard was selected by *Commercial Carrier Journal*, a major trade magazine, as "2006 Innovator of the Year", primarily based on their approaches to training and safety.

### Cable Technologies, Inc.

WTG Funds: **\$342,138**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$144,268**

Cable Technologies, Inc., will use this funding to hire and train 100 new employees over the next two years. Cable technologies designs, produces, and sells cable assemblies/harness systems to the aerospace industry, a highly individualized an specific task considered to be one

of the most difficult and time consuming assembly phases of manufacturing.

### St. Vincent Healthcare Foundation

WTG Funds: **\$200,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$563,000**

St. Vincent's Healthcare Foundation on behalf of St. Vincent Healthcare in Billings, St. James Healthcare in Butte, and Holy Rosary Healthcare in Miles City, will earmark the grant for onsite orientation



AvMax Hangar, Great Falls, MT.

and clinical training through hospital performance for 40 new employees over the next two years.

### Ernest Health, Inc.

WTG Funds: **\$575,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$15,460,000**

Ernest Health, Inc., is building a new long term care facility in Billings, which will provide health care services not currently available in the state, and create as many as 150 new jobs when fully operational. Ernest Health will hire and train 115 new employees over the next two years to work in the facility.

### Cherokee Capital Inc. dba Hobson Insurance

WTG Funds: **\$18,334**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$160,800**

Hobson Insurance, an independent insurance agency that provides insurance for commercial accounts who are members of national buying groups will use its grant to train 5 new staff members.

### BioScience Laboratories, Inc.

WTG Funds: **\$50,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$844,364**

BioScience Laboratories Inc., in Bozeman,

is an independent antimicrobial testing lab that will use the grant to hire and train 10 new employees over the next two years.

### AvMax Montana

WTG Funds: **\$179,866**

BSTF: **\$265,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$8,933,864**

AvMax was awarded this grant to hire and train 74 new employees to work at its heavy maintenance and repair facility for regional aircrafts at the Great Falls International Airport.

### Bresnan Communications

WTG Funds: **\$600,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$34,714,000**

Bresnan Communications was awarded this funding to assist with their purchase and expansion of cable operations in Montana, and to hire and train 120 new employees throughout Montana over the next two years.

### Glacier Stone Supply, LLC.

WTG Funds: **\$232,500**

CDBG: **\$300,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$500,000**

Glacier Stone Supply, a manufacturer and supplier of natural stone and thin stone veneer products located in Kalispell, will use the funding to focus on producing veneer stone, allowing them to market nationwide. The company will train 58 new employees over the next two years.

### GE Capital Corporation

WTG Funds: **\$1,000,000**

BSTF: **\$625,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$19,211,750**

GE Capital Corporation's Commercial Finance division will open an Operations Center in Billings in Nov., 2008. The Company offers a broad range of financial services, and will hire and train 200 new employees over the next two years.

### Billings Clinic

WTG Funds: **\$310,000**

Leveraged Funds: **\$56,630,558**

The grant to Montana-based not-for-profit Billings Clinic, with several branches, will be used for multiple expansion projects currently in progress that will create approximately 100 FTE positions.



## Workforce Innovation and Regional Economic Development

### **Sustainable Systems, LLC—**

Sustainable Systems LLC of Missoula works with agricultural producers, scientists and businesspeople to turn Montana grown oilseeds into innovative renewable fuels and other bio-based and value-added agricultural products.

In 2007, the Montana Department of Commerce awarded Sustainable Systems a \$700,000 Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) grant to be used for workforce training at the company's expanding oilseed crushing facility in Culbertson. The WIRED grant is enabling the company to hire and train 39 new employees and provide 15 existing employees with training on new equipment. Sustainable Systems leveraged the grant with \$12.6 million in matching funds.

The Commerce WIRED program had approximately \$2.4 million in grant funds available for customized worker training for businesses working with universities, colleges, high schools, and other training providers on specialized bio-product training and curriculum development. The program also provides grants for WIRED eligible job training programs or projects that will enhance and expand the bio-product industry in the WIRED region. Montana's WIRED region encompasses 32 counties in central and eastern Montana and six Indian Reservations.

### **Economic Development Projects 2007**

#### **Lake County Development Corporation/Mission Mountain**

WIRED Funds: \$49,732

Leveraged Funds: \$60,000

This award was given in support of the Western Bio-Products Innovation Center in Ronan to provide a food packaging/processing resource to the WIRED region. As a result of this grant, 5 new jobs were created.

#### **Sustainable Systems, LLC**

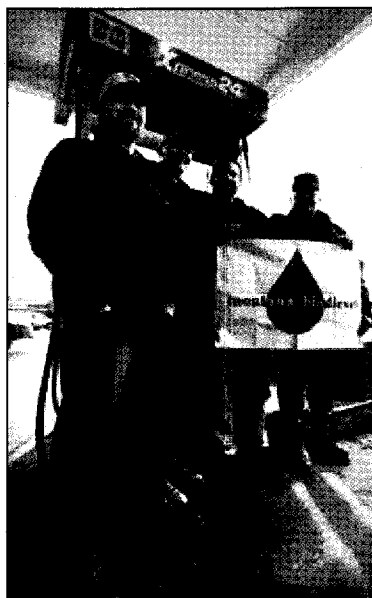
WIRED Funds: \$700,000

Leveraged Funds: \$12,600,000

As a result of this grant, Sustainable Systems, an oil seed crushing plant located in Culbertson, will add 39 new employees. Funding will be used to train these em-

ployees, along with 15 existing employees and to perform a large remodel and equipment upgrade.

Montana's WIRED program was created as a result of Governor Brian Schweitzer's commitment to value added agricultural energy projects. In January 2006, the U.S. Department of Labor approved Governor Schweitzer's application for the WIRED initiative. Montana's application was one of only 13 approved nationwide.



*Sustainable Systems, LLC., employees in Culbertson, MT.*

ployees, along with 15 existing employees and to perform a large remodel and equipment upgrade.

#### **Ethanol Producers and Consumers**

WIRED Funds: \$87,500

Leveraged Funds: \$193,920

EPAC, located in Nashua, will use funding to create 4 new jobs and to fund a series of workshops to train employees and businesses on providing education, information and referral services to promote the bio-fuel industry.

#### **Peaks and Prairies, LLC**

WIRED Funds: \$410,000

Leveraged Funds: \$540,000

Peaks and Prairies, located in Malta, is a bio-refinery that crushes oil crops grown by members and refines the oils into bio-lubricants. This award will be used to train 27 new full time employees and to fund a state of the art equipment upgrade.

### **Economic Development Projects 2006**

#### **Montana Manufacturing Extension Center**

WIRED Funds: \$699,134

Total Leveraged Funds: \$734,017

MMEC, located in Bozeman, plans to use funding to work with existing and new bio-product businesses within the WIRED region to increase manufacturing and production efficiency and to train 200 employees, including a WIRED lead engineer.

#### **Fort Peck Community College**

WIRED Funds: \$150,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$200,000

This grant, managed by the Fort Peck Community College in Poplar, will be used to train 25 previously unemployed individuals to be prepared for opportunities in the bio-product related industry within the WIRED area.

#### **Mr. Pipetech**

WIRED Funds: \$22,200

Leveraged Funds: \$24,079

Funding to Mr. Pipetech, a pipe specialty operation located in Miles City, will go to train 8 new employees in specialized skills to better prepare them to enter the bio-product workforce.

#### **University of Montana**

WIRED Funds: \$572,734

Leveraged Funds: \$304,401

This award has created six jobs while providing start up funds for a 2-year Associate of Applied Science degree program at the University of Montana in Missoula to train Energy Technicians, which will contribute to the bio-product industry by creating a highly trained and specialized workforce.

#### **New Century Ag**

WIRED Funds: \$25,000

BSTF: \$25,000

CDBG: \$243,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$24,000,000

New Century Ag will use this funding to train 4 current employees and hire 5



Intercontinental Truck Body Products being delivered to Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls, MT.

new employees to operate and maintain a new 100 car grain handling and loading facility.

#### **Intercontinental Truck Body**

WIRED Funds: **\$300,000**

CDBG: **\$400,000**

Total Leveraged Funds:  
**\$465,000**

ITB of Conrad, will use this award to train 15 new employees, along with existing employees, in the production of truck bodies to fill military contracts and Air Force "tug and aircraft ramps" contracts.

#### **Fort Belknap Indian Community**

WIRED Funds: **\$50,000**

Total Leveraged Funds:  
**\$108,000**

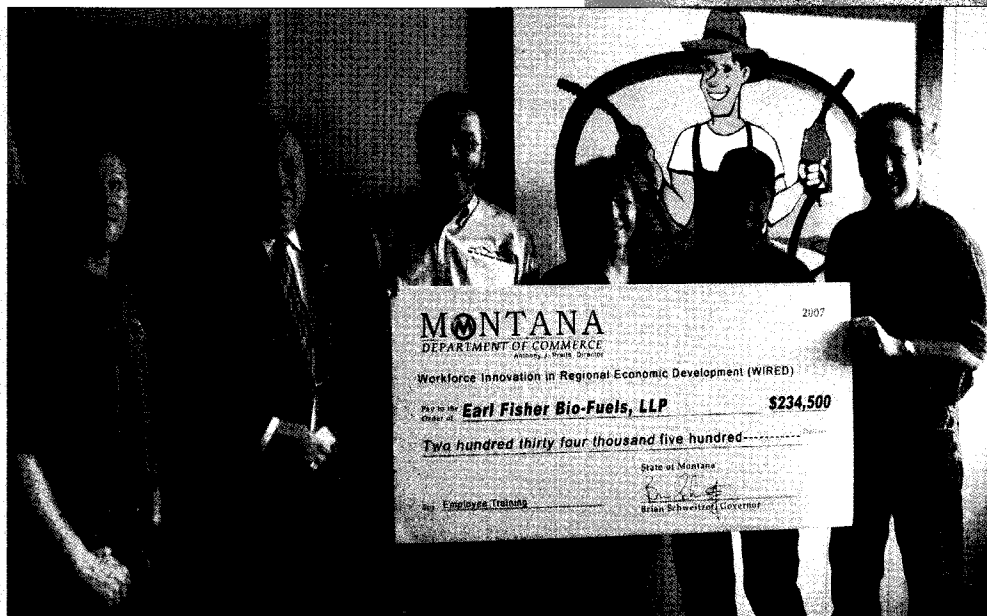
FBIC will provide job training for 6 new employees in the production of smoked meat products made by their tribal enterprise, the Little River Smoke House.

#### **Earl Fisher Bio-Fuels, LLP**

WIRED Funds: **\$234,500**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$1,806,964**

Earl Fisher Bio-Fuels, located in Chester, will use funding to train 9 new employees in the production of biodiesel. Earl Fisher uses primarily oilseed crops grown on the farms in the local area.



Check presentation to Earl Fisher Bio-Fuels in Chester, MT.

#### **Decker Coal**

WIRED Funds: **\$1,526,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$2,822,377**

Decker Coal, located in Decker, was awarded this grant to train employees in the operation of the mining industry. Almost 50% of Decker's workforce is of retirement age and the money will be used to replace Decker's aging workforce.

#### **D&M Water Service**

WIRED Funds: **\$62,928**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$73,842**

D&M Water Service, located in Baker, will use funding to provide training in the safety, operation and maintenance of their equipment (trucks, trailers, forklifts, etc.). They will train 9 new employees.

#### **Economic Development Projects 2008**

##### **Safflower Technologies International, LLC**

WIRED Funds: **\$73,325**

BSIF: **\$25,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$374,475**

The award granted to Safflower Technologies, located in Fairview, will be used to create five new jobs and train employees in the operation and maintenance of a seed cleaning and storage facility (primarily safflower).

##### **Signal Peak Energy**

WIRED Funds: **\$300,000**

BSIF Funds: **\$975,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$450,300,000**

Signal Peak Energy, located in Roundup, was awarded this grant to provide training for up to 191 employees in the operation of the mining industry.



## Big Sky Economic Development Trust Fund

**AvMax**—AvMax Group Inc. of Calgary, Canada landed at the Great Falls International Airport in 2006. Its heavy maintenance and avionics rehabilitation operation has quickly expanded, in part with assistance from the Montana Department of Commerce.

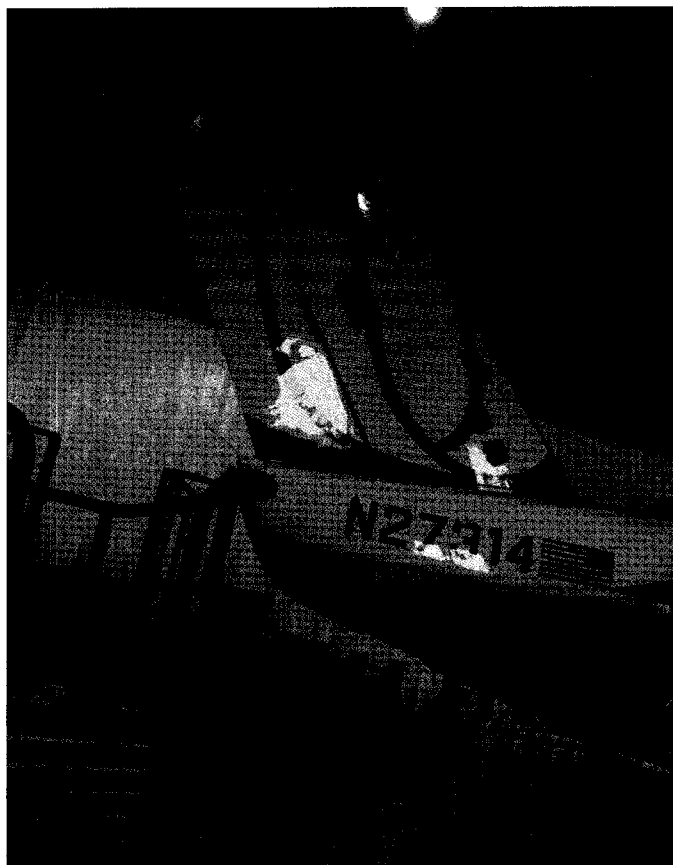
In 2008, AvMax and the Great Falls International Airport received a total of \$444,866 in Big Sky Economic Development Trust Funds (BSTF) and Workforce Training Grant (WTG) funds for a joint expansion project.

AvMax will use the \$179,866 in WTG funds to hire and train 74 new employees for the second and third part of its expansion project at the Great Falls International Airport.

New employee wages will range between \$15.50 and \$28.50 per hour plus benefits. The Great Falls International Airport Authority will use the \$265,000 grant from the BSTF to purchase equipment for the new paint hangar that will be leased to AvMax as part of the AvMax expansion. These grants were leveraged with over \$8.9 million in additional funds.

The company also received a WTG grant of \$205,000 to train up to 98 new employees in 2006.

The Big Sky Economic Development Trust Fund was created by the 2005 Montana Legislature. It is designed to aid in the development of good paying jobs for Montana residents and promote long-term stable economic growth in Montana. By statute, 75% of the Big Sky Economic Development Trust Fund's earnings will be used to fund Category I: Economic Development projects and 25% of the earnings will be used to fund Category II: Planning Grant projects.



AvMax Hangar in Great Falls, MT

### Economic Development Projects 2006

#### CDI Business Solutions-Aerospace

BSTF Funds: **\$150,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$1,542,492**

A grant to the town of Bozeman for the training of 35 new employees to work on the Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation contract at the CDI Engineering Design Center.

#### DirectTV

BSTF Funds: **\$460,000**

CDBG: **\$400,000**

WTG: **\$1,955,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$18,197,000**

A Grant to Missoula County toward the purchase of a completely constructed building in the Missoula Development park that will be leased to DirecTV. This will provide over 1,000 new jobs.

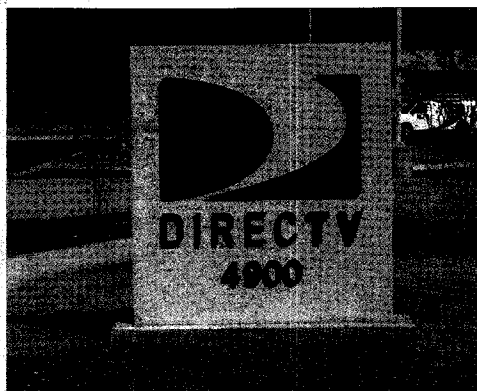
### Summit Aeronautics Group

BSTF Funds: **\$200,000**

WTG: **\$200,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$21,858,678**

A grant awarded to Helena Regional Airport to support the expansion of an aerospace manufacturing company. The award will assist in the creation of 40 new jobs.



DirectTV Logo Sign in Missoula, MT

### Economic Development Projects 2007

#### SeaCast of Montana, LLC

BSTF Funds: **\$450,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$6,772,500**

This grant will create 60 jobs in the consolidated city-county government of Butte-Silver Bow to assist with transportation and relocation costs for equipment to be placed in a new facility in Butte. SeaCast serves a wide variety of industries including aerospace and medical.

#### Sustainable Systems, LLC

WTG Funds: **\$700,000**

Leveraged Funds: **\$12,600,000**

As a result of this grant, Sustainable Systems, an oil seed crushing plant located in Culbertson, will add 39 new employees. Funding will be used to train these employees, along with 15 existing employees, and to perform a large remodel and equipment upgrade.

**AvMax Manufacturing, LLC**

BSTF Funds: \$25,000

CDBG: \$243,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$268,000

This award to Lake County is to support the training of six new employees being paid at least \$12.40 per hour for the expansion of the natural vitamin supplement company which will support the creation of 11 jobs over the next few years.

**Cabela's Retail, Inc.**

BSTF Funds: \$50,000

WTG: \$40,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$16,945,000

A grant to the Big Sky Economic Development Authority, a Port Authority for Yellowstone County, to support the non-construction costs of the expansion of the specialty sporting goods retailer into Billings.

**New Century Ag**

BSTF Funds: \$25,000

CDBG: \$243,000

WTG: \$25,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$34,000,000

A grant to the town of Weston for infrastructure improvements to support the expansion of New Century Ag's facility, creating five jobs at \$10.00 per hour, and retaining four jobs that would have otherwise been lost.

\*All wages are stated, excluding benefits

### Economic Development Projects 2008

**AvMax Montana, Inc.**

BSTF Funds: \$265,000

WTG: \$179,866

Total Leveraged Funds: \$8,933,864

Fifty-three jobs at \$14.20 per hour were created with this award to Great Falls International Airport Authority to purchase ventilation system equipment for a paint hanger leased to AvMax, Montana, Inc. The creation of seventy four jobs is expected over several years.

**Safflower Technologies International, LLC**

BSTF Funds: \$25,000

WIRED: \$73,325



Lt. Gov. John Bolinger at a check presentation to AvMax, Great Falls, Montana.

Total Leveraged Funds: \$374,475

A grant was awarded to the City of Fairview for Safflower Technologies, Intl., LLC for the purchase of equipment for expansion of a seed crushing and processing facility. The award created five jobs that pay at least \$15.00 per hour. The expected job potential is eight.

**General Electric Capital Corporation**

BSTF Funds: \$625,000

WTG: \$1,000,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$19,211,750

One hundred twenty five jobs paying at least \$16.18 per hour will be created with this grant to Big Sky Economic Development Authority to assist General Electric Capital Corporation's Commercial Finance Division purchase employee training-related equipment. The expected job potential is two hundred over the next few years.

**Rocky Mountain Supercomputer Center, Inc.**

BSTF Funds: \$307,500

Total Leveraged Funds: \$428,250

This grant was awarded to the consolidated city-county government of Butte-Silver Bow assist with costs to provide a suitable location for a supercomputer owned by the State of Montana for the benefit of and use by the Rocky Mountain Supercomputer Center, Inc, a non-profit business.

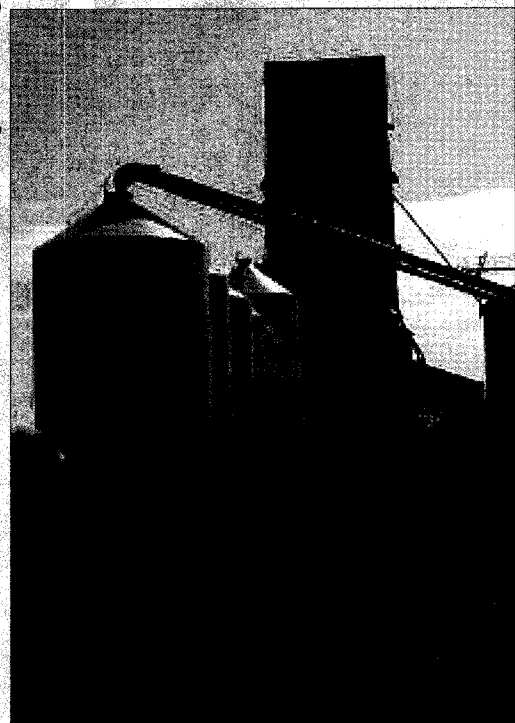
**Signal Peak Energy, LLC**

BSTF Funds: \$975,000

WIRED Funds: \$300,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$450,300,000

Musselshell County was awarded this grant to assist Signal Peak Energy, LLC with the purchase of employee training-related equipment that will support the creation of 130 jobs that must pay at least \$11.90 per hour, with an expected job potential of 191 for the entire project.



Safflower Technologies International, Fairview, MT. Facility.

# Community Development Block Grant Economic Development Program

**S&K Electronics** — S&K Electronics, Inc. in Ronan is a leading manufacturer of cable assemblies, wiring harnesses, electronic and electro-mechanical products for both private industry and government agencies. The company is owned by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and is located on the Flathead Indian Reservation.

In 2006, the Montana Department of Commerce awarded \$293,000 in Community Development Block Grant Economic Development (CDBG-ED) funds to Lake County Community Development Corporation for an employee training and retention project at S&K Electronics.

From these funds, Lake County Community Development Corporation provided a \$203,000 loan to S & K Electronics for working capital. Up to \$15,000 in CDBG-ED funds were allocated to be used by the county for the administration of the contract with the Montana Department of Commerce. Up to \$75,000 of the funds were allocated to S&K Electronics for employee training. This project will retain 55 full time jobs, of which 50 are held by low and moderate income people. The project was leveraged with \$278,000 in additional funds.

The Montana Department of Commerce receives approximately \$2.3 million each year in CDBG-ED funds from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development for Economic Development. These funds are distributed to communities for loans to businesses to stimulate economic development activity that creates or retains jobs primarily for individuals from low and moderate-income families. The program assists businesses by providing flexible interest rates and loan terms to complement conventional bank financing and other federal and state finance programs.



S&K Electronics in Ronan, Montana.

## Economic Development Projects 2006

### Stillwater Community Healthcare

CDBG: \$300,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$1,445,000

SCH in Columbus will use funding to expand the county's only hospital, and keep it open under the Medical Critical Access Facility Requirements. This grant will retain 86 jobs and create 2 new positions.

### S&K Electronics

CDBG: \$293,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$278,000

S&K Electronics of Pablo, a technology development manufacturing service provider, will use the award for employee training and will retain 55 positions.

### Kimir Seatpost, LLC

CDBG: \$95,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$90,000

Kimir Seatpost, LLC, located in Lake County, is a business that designs, markets and manufactures specialty seat

post units for mountain bikes will use funding to create 5 new full time positions.

### Community, Counseling & Correctional Services, Inc.

CDBG: \$374,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$9,250,000

CCCS, a Meth treatment facility located in Lewistown, will use their award for extension of water and sewer infrastructure to the site, employee training, and the creation of 44 new positions.

### Creative Sales Company

CDBG: \$225,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$558,000

Creative Sales Company, a Columbia Falls injection molding manufacturing company will use funding to create 15 new jobs and to expand business.

### Distinctive Countertops

CDBG: \$315,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$1,304,000

Distinctive Countertops, located in Kalispell, is a fabricator and installer of surfacing and cabinet

products for working capital. They will use funds to create 16 new jobs.

### GlaxoSmithKline

CDBG: \$400,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$37,000,000

GSK, a pharmaceutical company that manufactures immunotherapeutics will use the award to create 53 new positions and for employee training.

### DirectTV

CDBG: \$400,000

BSTF: \$460,000

WTG: \$1,955,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$18,197,000

DirectTV, a subscription television satellite service company, will purchase a facility in Missoula and create over 1,000 new jobs.

### Greenway Dairy

CDBG: \$100,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$739,057

Located in Savage, Greenway Dairy will use funds for refinancing, and will retain 6 jobs.

## Economic Development Projects 2007

### New Century Ag

CDBG: \$243,000

BSTF: \$25,000

WIRED: \$25,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$24,000,000

New Century Ag, located in Westby, will create 5 new jobs with funding, and will also use funds for water and sewer infrastructure, electrical services, and for construction of a new office space and grain elevator.

### Intercontinental Truck Body

CDBG: \$400,000

WIRED: \$300,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$465,000

ITB, located in Conrad, will use funding for equipment and inventory purchases to fulfill a U.S. military contract for truck bodies, along with the creation of 15 new positions.

### Ashley Martin

CDBG: \$216,000

BSTF: \$45,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$518,000

Ashley Martin, a natural supplements facility located in Arlee, will use funds to create 11 new jobs.

### Revett Minerals

CDBG: \$324,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$300,000

Revett Minerals, a silver and copper mining company located in Libby, will create 30 new jobs with funding, as well as an electrical meter upgrade for all Kootenai Business Park tenants.

### Tire Depot, Inc.

CDBG: \$184,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$864,768

Tire Depot, Inc., located in Polson, will use funding for equipment purchases related to expansion, and to create 8.5 new jobs.

### Sun Mountain Lumber

CDBG: \$400,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$1,130,410

Sun Mountain Lumber, a lumber mill located in Deer Lodge, will use the award for new and incumbent employee training, and will create 27 new jobs.



Governor Brian Schweitzer at Sun Mountain Lumber's facility in Deer Lodge, Montana.

## Economic Development Projects 2008

### Glacier Stone Supply, LLC

CDBG: \$300,000

WTG: \$232,500

Total Leveraged Funds: \$500,000

Glacier Stone Supply, LLC, a stone veneer manufacturing company, located in Flathead County, will use funds for equipment purchases and to create 50 new jobs.

### Western Building Center of Kalispell

CDBG: \$125,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$6,475,000

Western Building Center of Kalispell is currently building a new store that will focus on manufacturing prefab roof and floor trusses and wall panels for affordable housing projects. They plan to use the award for new equipment and machinery purchases, and will create 20 new positions.

### Pyramid Mountain Lumber

CDBG: \$475,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$3,009,000

Pyramid Mountain Lumber of Seeley Lake will create 30 new jobs and purchase lodge pole pine raw materials to support Pyramid's new focus on the remodeling market with this funding.

### Luck E-G Post & Rail of Montana, Inc.

CDBG: \$135,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$567,000

Luck E-G will use a grinder (purchased by

the Kootenai Business Industrial District) to produce bi-products to be marketed to regional businesses. The company expects to create at least 5 new positions.

### Sherman Motor Inn

CDBG: \$217,391

Total Leveraged Funds: \$1,397,095

Guy and Karen Huber will receive a loan from the Great Northern Development Corporation to help them purchase the Sherman Motor Inn. The purchase will allow them to remain open and retain at least 20 full time positions.

### Flathead Valley Community College

CDBG: \$166,860

Total Leveraged Funds: \$169,500

Flathead Valley Community College will receive a grant to assist with student training costs in the college's Welding and Metals Fabrication Program. The College expects to assist with training at least 35 students who will have the opportunity to apply for job openings at local businesses.

### Beartooth Hospital & Health Center

CDBG: \$600,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$23,086,000

The Beartooth Hospital & Health Center will purchase critically needed hospital equipment & machinery that will be utilized in its existing facility and then moved to the new hospital upon its completion. The hospital expects to hire at least 30 new people.



## Indian Country Economic Development

**Little River Smoke House**—The Little River Smokehouse produces buffalo jerky, snack sticks and sausage in Harlem near the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation. The company is owned entirely by the Fort Belknap Indian Community of Gros Ventre and Assiniboiné tribes. In 2008, the Montana Department of Commerce awarded the Fort Belknap Indian Community with \$70,000 in Indian Country Economic Development (ICED) funds for working capital and product inventory for the Little River Smokehouse. The funds will create five new jobs and retain four current employees. The project is leveraged with \$165,000 in tribal funds.

The company was also awarded a \$50,000 ICED grant for marketing and operations support, as a start-up business in 2007. The project leveraged \$188,000 in funds and created or retained eight staff members. At the same time, the Little River Smokehouse partnered with another Fort Belknap tribal enterprise, Little Rockies Meat Packing, Inc.

In 2006, Little Rockies Meat Packing was the recipient of an ICED grant award of \$55,000. These funds were used for working capital. This project leveraged \$50,000 and retained eight jobs.

Indian Country Economic Development funds from the

Montana Department of Commerce were made available to tribal governments beginning October 1, 2005. Both the 59th and 60<sup>th</sup> Montana Legislatures made funds available to support tribal business development projects, workforce training projects, entrepreneurial training, feasibility studies and other types of economic development projects.



Employees at the Little River Smokehouse in Harlem, Montana.

In FY 2006, the State Tribal Economic Development Commission (STEDC) increased each award by \$5,000 to a total of \$55,000 per tribe. In FY 2007, each tribe received \$50,000. In FY 2008, each tribe will receive \$70,000. In FY 2009, each tribe will receive \$70,000 per tribe.

### Economic Development Projects 2006

#### **Black Feet Nation: Tribal Manpower Program**

ICED Funds: **\$55,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$106,022**

The Blackfeet Nation was awarded this grant to train tribal members in fire-fighting, provide staff support, and expand firefighter training to include FEMA disaster training. This project trained 500 people, which included additional training in Georgia and Florida.

#### **Chippewa Cree Tribe**

ICED Funds: **\$55,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$150,000**

This grant was awarded to complete a marketing study for a potential ethanol and by-product plant, which created 2 jobs. The project is focusing its resources on additional development including environmental assets, permitting, land development, and engineering.

#### **Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes**

ICED Funds: **\$55,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$70,777**

Tribally owned Flathead Stickers and Lath Plant will use this funding to create 3 new jobs, purchase equipment and train employees.

#### **Crow Nation**

ICED Funds: **\$55,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$104,700**

This award was granted for the establishment of a revolving loan fund for enrolled tribal members. The fund targets start-up businesses on the reservation. This funding created 2 new jobs.

#### **Fort Belknap Indian Community**

ICED Funds: **\$55,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$50,000**

Tribally owned Little Rockies Meat Packing, Inc. to support the purchase of a patty making machine, a walk-in freezer, inventory and labels and packaging for products.

#### **Fort Peck Tribes**

ICED Funds: **\$55,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$2,120,000**

The Tribe's Mitakuye Corporation was awarded this funding for development of

a tribally owned manufacturing and information technology services network holding company. The tribe is partnering with various tribally-owned businesses in an effort to leverage their respective human and capital resources. This award created 1 job.

#### **Little Shell Chippewa Tribe**

ICED Funds: **\$55,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$50,000**

The tribe, headquartered in Great Falls, will use the award to create one job, provide support for a feasibility study, grant writing for potential support and the creation of a business plan for a tribal capital and visitor center.

#### **Northern Cheyenne Tribe**

ICED Funds: **\$55,000**

Total Leveraged Funds: **\$90,410**

The tribe was awarded funding to complete a telecommunications study identifying potential tribal ownership opportunities and service improvements on the reservation. The funding created two jobs.

## **Economic Development Projects 2007**

### **Blackfeet Nation**

ICED Funds: \$50,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$444,000

This funding will assist in the creation of 4 jobs and the start-up of a tribally-owned communications utility with SIYEH Corporation, which is wholly owned by the Blackfeet Tribe. The utility will provide Internet and wireless communication to the Blackfeet Indian Reservation.

### **Chippewa Cree Tribe**

ICED Funds: \$50,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$300,000

This award will support a design/build contract for an ethanol and by product plant on the Rocky Boy Reservation.

### **Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes**

ICED Funds: \$50,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$2,042,957

Two tribal enterprises, Flathead Lath and Dowell Mill and the People's Center, will use this award to continue development, including a heat source unit for the mill and a formal business plan for the cultural museum.

### **Crow Tribe**

ICED Funds: \$50,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$50,000

This award was granted for the continuation of the development of the Crow Reservation Revolving Loan Fund, which targets start-up businesses on the reservation.

### **Fort Belknap Indian Community**

ICED Funds: \$50,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$188,000

The Little River Smokehouse, a tribally owned start-up business located in Harlem, will partner with tribal enterprise

Little Rockies Meat Packing to use funding for marketing and operations support, along with the creation of 8 staff positions.

### **Fort Peck Tribes**

ICED Funds: \$50,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$200,000

A financial and economic review of the tribes' North Spole Irrigation project will be conducted with this funding, which will also support skills training for tribal members transitioning from welfare to work through the Fort Peck Native American Artisan Guild. The award will create four jobs.

### **Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes**

ICED Funds: \$70,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$300,000

Two positions will be retained as this grant is used to support the orientation of a new Economic Development Officer, including planning and technical assistance.

### **Crow Tribe**

ICED Funds: \$70,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$80,000

The Crow Reservation Revolving Loan Fund will be maintained and expanded with this grant. This fund provides assistance to Crow business owners by providing capital or financing that might not otherwise be available.

### **Fort Belknap Indian Community**

ICED Funds: \$70,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$235,200

Little River Smokehouse will use this award for working capital and product inventory for their wholly owned tribal business. This project will create 5 new jobs,



*Grand Opening of the Little River Smokehouse in Harlem, Montana.*

## **Economic Development Projects 2008**

### **Blackfeet Nation**

ICED Funds: \$70,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$1,600,000

Pikuni Industries, Inc., a tribally-owned business, will use this funding to create 12-18 jobs and, while partnering with Working with Radiance Technologies, Inc. of Huntsville, AL, will research, develop, and prototype advanced lightweight materials for military use.

### **Chippewa Cree Tribe**

ICED Funds: \$70,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$235,200

This award will provide 5 jobs while supplying tribal workforce training and development as part of the Ojibwa Initiative, which focuses on providing a healthy workforce

while retaining 4

### **Fort Peck Tribes**

ICED Funds: \$70,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$379,463

Funding will be used to create 2 jobs and to coordinate and manage forested lands including designing and developing tracts for irrigated crops.

### **Little Shell-Chippewa Tribe**

ICED Funds: \$70,000

Total Leveraged Funds: \$154,400

A child care center based on Chippewa traditions will be designed, developed, and implemented with this grant. The center will partner with Great Falls Public Schools for pre-school activities and has the potential to generate 12-20 new positions.



**Northern Cheyenne Tribe**
**ICED Funds: \$70,000**
**Total Leveraged Funds: \$208,097**

Funds were awarded for the continuation of a tribally owned, multi-phased telecommunications project and for the development of an arts and crafts facility providing tourism and cultural information. The project will create 14 jobs initially with potential for another 10.

**Economic Development Projects 2009**
**Chippewa Cree Tribe**
**ICED Funds: \$70,000**
**Total Leveraged Funds: \$267,550**

The Rocky Boys Chippewa Cree Tribe will develop a partnership between the Square Butte Trading Post (a private, tribal-member owned business) and the Rocky Boy Arts & Crafts Cooperative (a tribally owned enterprise). The funding will support the co-development of each entity and will provide technical assistance to the Cooperative on behalf of the

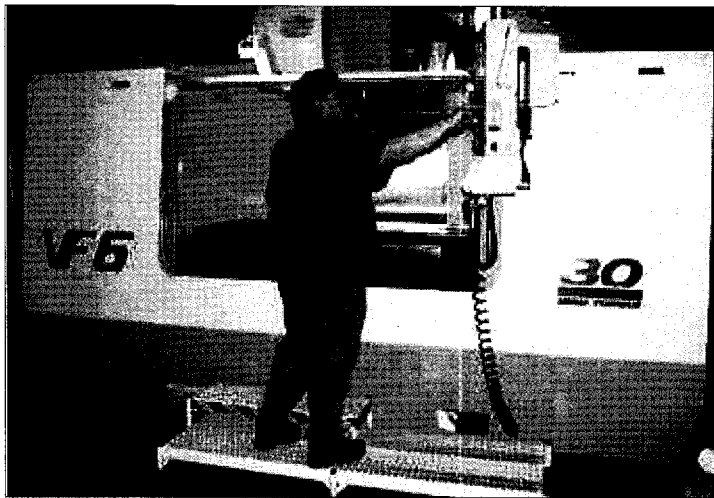
Trading Post. The partnership is expected to create an initial 5 jobs.

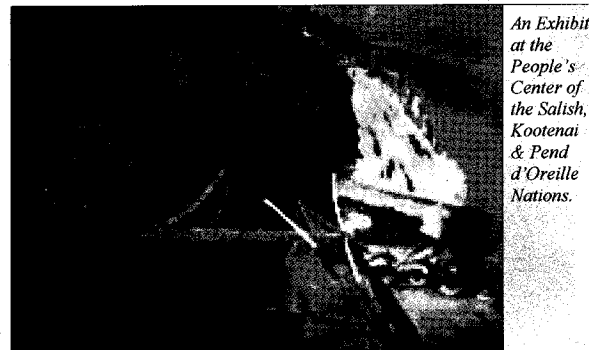
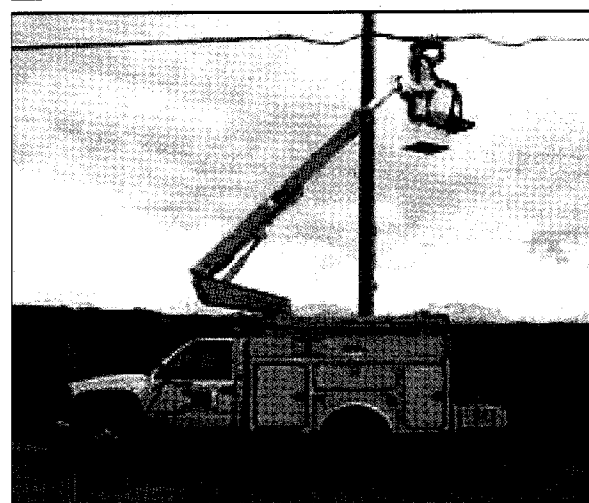
**Fort Belknap Indian Community**
**ICED Funds:**
**Total Leveraged Funds:**

The Little River Smokehouse, a tribally owned enterprise will address sustainability of operations and enhance staff professional development through technical assistance from the Montana Marketing Technical Assistance Program (M<sup>2</sup>TAP) for the development of a strategic marketing plan and assistance from the Montana Manufacturing Extension Center (MMEC) to develop a business plan/model. The enterprise expects to retain 6 FTE and 2 positions.

**Fort Peck Tribes**
**ICED Funds: \$70,000**
**Total Leveraged Funds: \$1,468,600**

Fort Peck Tribes will use the funds to support the professional development of the management and staff of A&S Diversified and Integrated Solutions, both tribally owned corporations. Staff management training in capacity building skills for advanced manufacturing, technical management, lean processing, pricing, marketing, and government contracting will enable the tribal corporations to pursue the fabrication of Eckaus parking meter vehicles, Persol Corporation solar panels, safflower oil bottling, and federal contracting opportunities. The combined enterprises expect to create 77 manufacturing and procurement/contract management jobs between the projects.

*A&S Diversified & Integrated Warehouse, Fort Peck Reservation, MT.*

*A&S Diversified & Integrated Solutions, Northeastern MT.*

*Little River Smokehouse in Fort Belknap, MT.*

*An Exhibit at the People's Center of the Salish, Kootenai & Pend d'Oreille Nations.*

*StarLink Cable Employee, a Siyeh Development Company. Tribune Photo by Stuart S. White*

# Montana Indian Equity Fund

Trinder Enterprises, a family owned construction company in Wolf Point, was one of the first businesses to receive funds from the Montana Indianpreneur Equity Fund pilot project in 2007. Located on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, the business sells and installs roofing, windows, doors, kitchen cabinets and appliances within a 90 mile radius of Wolf Point. Owners Curtis and Jenny Trinder were awarded \$4,375 in Equity Funds to purchase appliances and cabinets to showcase to customers.

The Trinders were able to leverage an additional \$225,000 with a loan from the Great Northern Development Corporation for the purchase of a building to house a new home renovation center.

The Montana Department of Commerce launched the Montana Indianpreneur Equity Fund pilot project in February 2007, as a resource for current or prospective Native American business

owners interested in starting or expanding their business. The project was developed by Commerce in cooperation

with the State Tribal Economic Development Commission and the Governor's Office of Economic Development.

The Department of Commerce and State Tribal Economic Development Commission has made

\$70,000 in Indian Country Economic Development (ICED) monies available for the Equity Fund. Equity Funds re-



*Trinder Enterprises in Wolf Point, Montana*

quire a minimum dollar-per-dollar match from outside funds or collateral.

## Economic Development Projects 2007

### Archambault & Company—Blackfeet

MIEF: \$7,875

Total Funds Leveraged: \$12,000

Charles Archambault's company, with offices in Browning and Billings, was funded for the acquisition of state-of-the-art surveying equipment and software allowing the company to widen and diversify its services.

### The Mane Event Beauty Salon—Blackfeet

MIEF: \$7,875

Total Funds Leveraged: \$21,000

This award to Rae Cline were used for business expansion to provide space for a coffee and gift shop. The shop is located in Browning.

### Care & Comfort Home—Rocky Boys

MIEF: \$7,875

Total Funds Leveraged: \$199,918

Funds to April Custer were used to leveraged the purchase of a building, new equipment and the renovation costs associated with the set up of a new facility to provide long term care for clients in Havre.

### Dry Lake Associates—Fort Belknap

MIEF: \$7,875

Total Funds Leveraged: \$13,777

Dr. Lenore A. Stiffarm, a grant writer living on the Fort Belknap Reservation was funded for the purchase of copying machines and materials for office expansion.

### Bigback Silk-Screening—Little Shell Chippewa

MIEF: \$7,875

Total Funds Leveraged: \$35,250

Michele Bigback's retail outlet operation, located in Butte, was funded to increase production and to establish a line of credit for operating capitol.

### Glenn's Native Metal Artwork—Flathead

MIEF: \$3,275

Total Funds Leveraged: \$14,508

Glenn Aragon was funded for the purchase of a trailer to carry his metal sculptures, which are on display around the world. He currently teaches Metal Arts at Salish Kootenai College in Pablo.

### Northern Star Blankets—Flathead

MIEF: \$4,600

Total Funds Leveraged: \$4,875

Tatonkaska Howard of Arlee was funded for the purchase of equipment and inventory for the production of blankets for pow wows, ceremonies and giveaways.

### Trinder Enterprises—Fort Peck

MIEF: \$4,375

Total Funds Leveraged: \$225,000

Curtis Trinder of Wolf Point was funded for the purchase of appliances and a cabinet display to integrate their business remodeling operations to include the purchase home renovation center.

### Image Casters—Fort Peck

MIEF: \$3,500

Total Funds Leveraged: \$9,300

Don LaRoque of Poplar was funded make equipment upgrades for his business. His pipe castings will be sold, in part, to the National Park System.

### Alaina Buffalo Spirit—Northern Cheyenne

MIEF: \$7,875

Total Funds Leveraged: \$20,000

Alaina was funded for the purchase of materials and equipment for her studio and to support marketing. She is currently showing her work across the U.S.

**Economic Development Projects  
2008**
**Reflections Boutique & Espresso—  
Blackfeet**

MIEF: \$7,875

Total Funds Leveraged: \$21,600

Tanhee Hall was granted this award for acquisition of inventory, new equipment and working capital. Reflections is co-located with the Mane Event Beauty Salon in Browning.

**Silver Wolf—Chippewa Cree**

MIEF: \$7,875

Total Funds Leveraged: Amount Under Review

John Gilbert will use funds to purchase water purification units to support the expansion of his business and will serve clients throughout Montana, including reservations.

**Quality Star Quilts—Fort Belknap**

MIEF: \$7,875

Total Funds Leveraged: \$15,000

Sis Murdock, of Fort Belknap, will use the award to support the expansion of her business, including the purchase of inventory, a computer, office supplies, advertising, and website development.

**Brunelle's Pest Control—Fort Peck**

MIEF: \$5,375

Total Funds Leveraged: \$20,800

Pat Brunelle of Wolf Point, was granted this award for the purchase of equipment, secure storage space and business insurance.


*The Mane Event Beauty Salon, Browning, Montana.*

housing and private sector individuals.

**Ellerickson Design—Fort Peck**

MIEF: \$2,500

Total Funds Leveraged: \$7,170

Loerty Erickson of Wolf Point, will use her funds for the purchase of computer, computer accessories and software to support her marketing and design work.

**The Wash Tub—  
Northern Cheyenne**

MIEF: \$7,875

Total Funds Leveraged: \$199,918

Sam Demary will use his award for the purchase of a commercial washing machine for his laundry mat in Ashland.

**Square Butte  
Trading Post—  
Rocky Boys**

MIEF: \$7,875

Total Funds Leveraged: \$9,100

Luanne Belcourt and Elsie Geobe of Box Elder will use funds for supplies, materials, website development and brochures.

**Kloli Event Planning and Consulting—Flathead**

MIEF: \$7,875

Total Funds Leveraged: \$12,675

Heather Cahoon will use funding for the purchase of a vehicle, office equipment and working capital for her consulting business which serves a diverse set of clients for Native and Non-Native.


*The Mane Event Beauty Salon in Browning, Montana.*

*Care & Comfort Home, an Elder Care Facility in Havre, MT.*

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Governor Schweitzer at MSU Northern in Havre, MT. Photo by Nikki Carlson of Havre Daily News.

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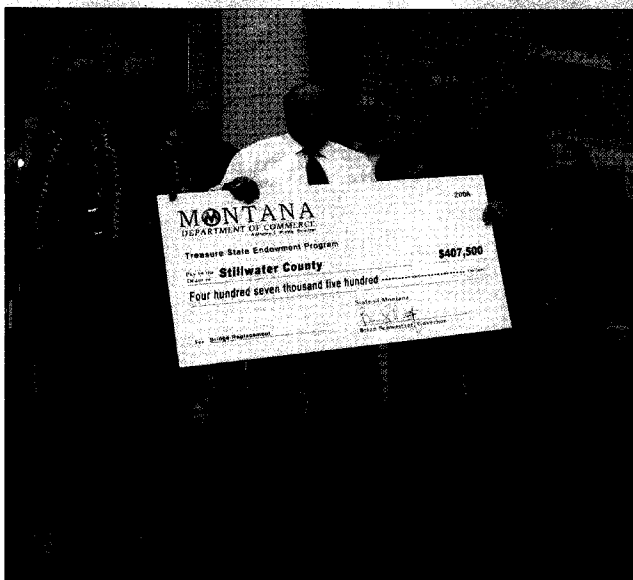
### Montana Indian Equity Fund

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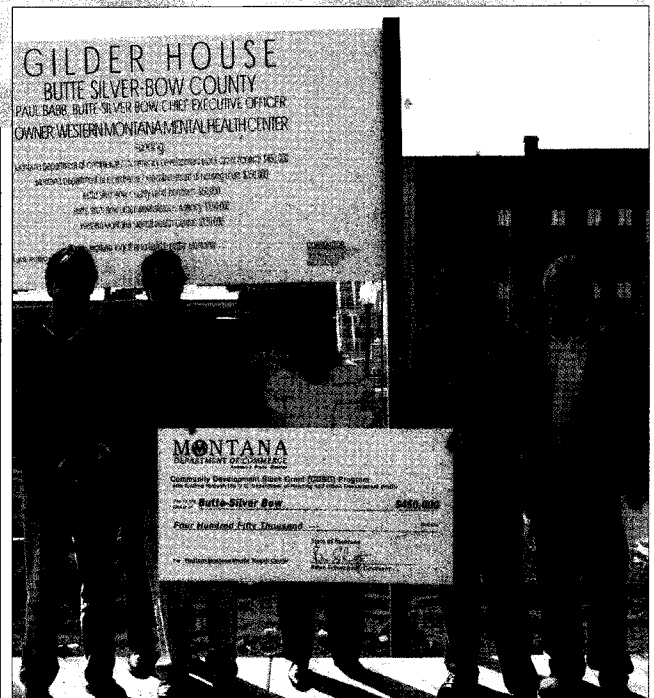
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Check Presentation to Stillwater County in Columbus, MT.



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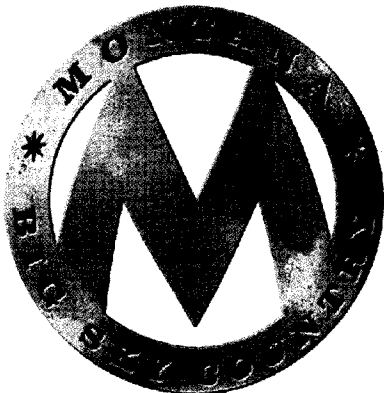
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*Prepared by:*  
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*&*  
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Governor Brian Schweitzer at a Check Presentation to MSU Northern in Havre, MT. (photo by Nikki Carlson of Havre Daily News).



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